

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1908-TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

SCHOOL FIRE TRAP CAUGHT NEARLY 200

Cleveland Horror Grows With Passage of Time.

LIST OF DEAD INCOMPLETE

May Be Days Before the Full Extent Is Known.

THOROUGH PROBE IS ORDERED

Contradictory Stories as to Whether or Not Doors Opened Inward and Were Locked.

Other Great Fire Disasters in the Past.

September, 1811-Richmond Theater. Richmond. Va., 71 killed. October, 1836-Lehman's Theater, St. Petersburg, Russia, 650 killed. January 6. 1864-Church of the Jesuits. Santiago, Chile, 2,500 killed. December 5, 1876-Brooklyn Theater, Brooklyn, N. Y., 289 killed. December 8. 1881-Ring Theater, Vienna, Austria, 850 killed.

June 16, 1883-School Sunderland, England, 200 killed. May 26. 1887-Opera Comique, Paris, France, 200 killed. September 4, 1887—Exeter The-ater, Exeter, England, 200 killed. March 21. 1888-Banquet Theater, Oporto, Portugal, 200 killed. July 21. 1889-Building at Lu-

Chow, China, 400 killed. January 9, 1890-Shantung Theater, China, 250 killed. August 22, 1891-Taylor building. New York city, collapse and fire, 61 February 8, 1892-Hotel Royal,

New York city, 17 killed. September, 1895-Pike's House, Cincinnati, Ohio, 200 killed. August 12, 1896-Ching Un District Theater, China, 200 killed. May 4. 1897-Charity Paris, France, 150 killed. March 17, 1899-Windsor Hotel, New York city, 16 killed. June 30, 1900-Piers of North German Lloyd Steamship Company

and three steamships. North river, New York, 200 killed and injured. September 20, 1902-Shiloh Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., 115 January 27, 1903-Colney Hatch Asylum, London, England, 52 killed.

December 30, 1903-Iroquois Theater, Chicago, Ill., 566 killed. 15, 1904-Steamship Gen. Slocum, East river, New York, 1.021 March 20, 1905-R. B. Glover &

Co.'s shoe factory, Brockton, Mass., December 7. 1907-Coal mine. Fairmont. W. Va., 400 killed. January 14. 1908-Rhodes Opera House, Boyerstown, Pa., 169 killed.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 5 .- Up to 10 o'clock today 112 little bodies had been identified from among the pupils of the Lake View School, in Collinwood, who lost their lives in the fire that gutted the school building yesterday morning. Twenty-four hours now have passed, and the exact number of fatalities is unknown. The number may reach 170. How many bodies still are in the ruins, if any, has

not been positively determined. Village firemen and voluntary assistants still are probing among the smoldering ruins.

So far 168 bodies have been recovered. Of these there remain fifty-six still to be identified.

that practically all will not be distinguished one from the other. Their names will be ascertained from the list of missing, but their individuality is a mystery that probably - will never be solved. The arrangements for a great public half closed front door that nothing could funeral are being rapidly perfected. This stop, which cost the lives of all who were likely will take place tomorrow, or not later than Saturday.

County Coroner T. A. Burke today began an investigation of the causes leading to the terrible loss of life in the burning toward the interior of the building. In of the school building. This work on the part of the coroner is not only official and in line with his regular duties, but he will go into the matter thoroughly, his work being supplementary to the investigation being conducted by the various Collinwood officials, such as the board of edu-

cation and the village council. The work of the Collinwood officials also was resumed early today. So far they the blame, if blame is to be placed.

Search for Three Girls.

It is generally admitted that the school building was of approved fireproof conthis standpoint.

Also it now is believed that the fire did not have its origin in the furnace or were packed with little bodies. They that it resulted from the explosion of the heating boiler. From the testimony so struggled and fought until their own far adduced the fire must have started hands were scorched almost to cinders under the stairway leading from the base- the pile, and could save no lives beyond ment to the first floor of the school build- a few that they lifted from the top before ing. The janitor, Fred Herter, stoutly the flames came upon them. maintains that there was no waste or rubbish there.

The officials are doubling their efforts to ascertain the names of the three girls he was so fearfully burned that he may St. Louis. The report, however, could who are reported to have been in the basement at the time the fire started, their lips, the children were shricking and who are said by the janitor to have for aid. A few of the women stood close first notified him of the fire which later developed into such a death-dealing in-

stories these girls may be able to tell. These are the problems that are confronting the officials.

Death List Grows.

The latter desire to learn the exact reason for the holocaust, not only because it may be the means of preventing a repetition of the calamity in the future and may stand as warning to other the doorways and frantic mothers were schools throughout the country, but will standing by, they could see the smoke so a degree appease the anixety of the afflicted parents and the public in general,

In this connection the janitor has been made to bear the major portion of the blame. While the janitor practically has cleared himself upon his own testimony, yet the feeling against him is high in Collinwood. Yesterday one father, crazed by his grief, made an attempt upon the life of Herter, but was restrained with difficulty. Herter is being guarded by the In addition to the blame, whether justified or not, being heaped upon him, Herter is broken down with grief over the loss of three of his own children in

As the day wore on the belief became general that the number of dead might total upward of 180. While 168 bodies had been recovered, it was stated by Village Engineer Gould that he was of the opinion that possibly twenty more bodies still were in the ruins, burned to ashes Mr. Gould based this opinion upon the difference between the number of bodies recovered and the number that have been reported missing. As the missing have not yet all been accounted for, it is apparent that the list of dead may total 180 when the facts have been sifted

Origin of the Fire.

The cause of the fire, which was aided by a frantic panic, a narrow hallway and doors which, it is claimed, by many, were made to open inward, still is a mystery. It was at first supposed that it came from an overheated furnace or an exploded boiler in the basement of the schoolhouse. It has been established that there was no explosion, and the janitor of the school, Fred Herter, three of whose children perished, declares that it could not have come from the furnace. Yesterday in Collinwood was compara-tively warm, and Herter declares that he maintained the fires at a lower rate than usual. Fearing he had not sufficiently warmed the building, he was, according to his story, on his way to open the furnace drafts when he was met by three little girls running from the basement, who

told him there was a fire below. These three little girls are now being sought by the police and by the fire commissioners. It is considered entirely possible by certain members of the Collinwood school board that they may have through carelessness started the blaze which cost the lives of so many chil-

May Have Been Incendiary.

L. R. Gardner, a member of the school board, is positive in his assertion that the fire was of incendiary origin. In that covered there are no electric light wires or other direct means of creating heat. There were in the building at the time the fire was discovered between 310 and 325 pupils and nine teachers. Two of the latter are among the dead.

The school was overcrowded, and quarters had been provided for the younger children in the attic. Strange as it may seem, more of the pupils escaped from this part of the schoolhouse than from any other. The children were under good discipline, they had been practiced frequently in the fire drill, their teachers without exception, retained their selfpossession, showing great courage in the face of imminent death, and yet more than half of these little ones died be cause of faulty building arrangements The schoolhouse was two stories and half in height, the walls being of brick and concrete. Inside it was a shell, which burned with almost inconceivable rapid

The entire interior was a mass of smoking ruins within thirty minutes after the alarm of fire was sounded.

Dead Lay in Heaps.

For supreme horror the scenes that were enacted around the rear door of the ill-fated schoolhouse have had few parallels. Little school children lay six and eight deep, while men and women struggled with desperation to release them until they were compelled to give way before the flames and smoke. One woman found her own daughter in this press and Chicago's Assistant Chief of Police stroked her hair in the effort to keep the flames away. She failed and the child was burned to death while her mother looked on.

From the upper floors of the building two stairways offered exit. One of these led to the door in front, the other to the rear. The front door was never fully opened, but a dense pile of little bodies lay in the blackened wreckage beneath

When the fire broke out the teachers promptly formed the pupils in columns of march according to the fire drill which they had so frequently practiced and started them for the doors. They had trained the children to march always toward the door in front, and instinctively the columns headed that way, and the children unknowingly were by their teachers literally marched into the very face of death.

When the head of the column was near-Of the fifty-six it is generally admitted ing the front door a rush of flames met last night after a final and futile attempt Some of the children dashed at the door in the effort to open it, while others turned and fled wildly up the stairs. The door was double and one side was held by a spring. The column above kept pressing down, and within a few seconds there was a jam, a panic and a struggle on the stairway and behind the caught within it.

Doors Opening Inward.

A far worse tragedy, however, was enacted at the door in the rear. This, it is claimed, opened like the front door, order to reach this entrance, the pupils Harry Goldstein, secretary of the Edelwere compelled to march down a stairway, make the sharp turn in a narrow hall, and so to the door. It was the lack the student, and the Stern girl, was folof space in the hall, and the sharp bend at the foot of the stairs that cost so many lives at this point. When the first children fleeing from the fire in front apit was opened, despite the terrific jam the chief. that took place behind it. This would indicate that the door opened outward, but the assertions to the contrary are many and positive, and it will probably require have arrived at no definite conclusion as an official investigation to determine the

stairs in a frenzy of terror. The stairs the crooked hallway and the narrow ves. the alleged anarchists now under arrest. struction, and that the calamity could tibule. At the bottom of the stairs, right The trunk, which is believed by the ponot have been averted, looked at from on the turn, somebody tripped and fell. In another instant others were down, and in less time than it can be told the doorway, the hall and the foot of the stairs and still could move no child from out of

Volunteers Were Helpless.

One man, Wallace Upton, fought for life of his daughter at this point until list leader, had arrived in Chlcago from die. All the while, until death closed not be substantiated. to the stairway, holding the hands of little ones until the flames drove them away. It was here that Mrs. Phillips Much depends, it is thought, upon the stood and tried to keep the fire from her the children a possible avenue of es-

> One woman, Mrs. Sprung, came running with a ladder and attempted to go through a window to save her boy, but she failed While agonized men were struggling in rising up from the floor and floating away (Continued on Tenth Page.)



General Movement to Make Them Uncomfortable.

STRAUS ORDER WELCOMED

One Arrest Already Made by Pitts-

burg Police.

PHILADELPHIA WAKING UP

Now Thinks That Lazarus Aver-

buch Acted Alone.

CHICAGO, March 5 .- "Lazarus Averbuch was alone in his attempt to take the life of Chief Shippy. Three days and nights' hard work on the case has brought me to this conclusion. I am going ahead, however, arresting all his friends I can find in the effort to sift this thing to the

Assistant Chief of Police Schuettler, who has taken charge of the anarchist situation in Chicago, made this statement to extract from Rosa Stern. Averbueh's friend, who was arrested yesterday, any information she might have as to a plot

Though arrests of anarchist suspects were made in several parts of the city during the day, and all of Averbuch's friends held by the police were subjected to thorough questioning, the police are led more and more to the conclusion that Averbuch had no actual confederates. Every clue that was furnished by Olga Averbuch, the would-be assassin's sister; ona, Averbuch's friend: H. Abramovitz, lowed to the end without revealing a proached this door it was closed. Later the morbid young man who was shot by

Raided a Boarding House.

Continuing their efforts to connect the attempted assassination of Chief of Police George M. Shippy last Monday with Fleeing from a fire in front, the children an anarchistic plot, the police early tocame rushing and tumbling down the day raided a rooming house at 76 Johnthemselves were broad, affording passage son street and seized a trunk full of propfor more children than could pass through erty belonging to Harry Goldstein, one of lice to contain anarchistic literature, was locked and the lid securely nailed. It was taken to the Maxwell street police station. lived at this rooming house for a time previous to the attempt on the life of Chief Shippy. Harry Shippy, the chief's son, who was

> the would-be assassin Averbuch, now has good chance for recovery. Two detectives were detailed today by Assistant Chief Schuettler to investigate a report which gained circulation last night that Emma Goldman, the anarch-

Pittsburg Arrest.

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 5 .- Federal authorities of this district are exerting the community of people of anarchistic daughter's hair. When the fire forced tendencies, members of the Black Hand the mothers to leave some hurled stones and similar undesirable characters. They through the windows in the hope that the also express a desire to co-operate with

> Reinrach Bass, who recently came here from Germany, has been landed in jail as one of the first results of this crusade. and Robert B. Layton, immigrant inspector for this district, is awaiting expected instructions from Washington to take steps for Bass' deportation. Bass is accused of assaulting a neighbor

charged that he was an avowed anarchist before he came to America and as such can be returned to the country from

Philadelphia Aroused.

PHILADELPHIA. March 5.-Aroused Next Two Weeks Critical by the recent riot of unemployed foreign ers on the principal street of this city and last Sunday's meeting of socialists in which law and order were defied, the police are prepared to actively co-operate with the immigration officials under the order of Secretary Straus to rid the ALLIES' country of alien anarchists and other criminals. The authorities are convinced that Philadelphia is in danger of becoming a center of such demonstrations, and New England to Be Organized vigroous measures will be employed to stamp out dangerous doctrines.

Investigations have been started which may result in the deportation of hundreds of undesirable foreigners. In addition to searching every nook and corner where DIFFICULTIES IN CAMPAIGN officers of the immigration service have been making a census of the aliens con fined in penal, reformatory and charitable institutions in the state. All such persons who are found to have been guilty of crime in their native countries will be de-

In four penal institutions in this city it has been found that there are about 600

Commissioner of Immigration Rogers i discussing the subject said: dragnet and it is found that he has had a criminal record before his arrival in this country. I will deport him. I have not the power to deport any alien, under the law, no matter what crime he may be conventions, state and district, to be held ident. guilty of, unless it is shown that he had within that period, will for the most part been guilty of crime in his native country. It is distinctly stated in the act goveming aliens that no one shall be barred from landing unless it is shown that he is undesirable or liable to become a public charge. We carry out the law to the very letter in the examination of all aliens, but it is easy for a foreign criminal to escape detection unless we have some data concerning his life at home.

A dispatch from Pittsburg announcing that the first anarchist to be arrested since the Department of Commerce and Labor called the attention of the police of the country, through the immigration inspectors, to the scope of the immigra- | Vermont may be of consequence, tion law, was held for deportation in that city, turns out to be tinged with the glittering halo of romance. The name given in the dispatch is Rainrach Bass of Germany. On inquiry at the bureau of immigration a Star reporter was told today that Bass had been held for some time as a public charge, and that, so far as known, he did not come under suspicion of harboring "red" ideas. If deported stadt group of anarchists: Isadore Mar- he will suffer that fate merely because he cannot be self-supporting. Thus the first anarchist arrest under the new dispensation is yet to be made. Incidentally it was said at the bureau of labor that shred of evidence pointing to a knowledge the orders to the immigration inspectors of the intended crime by any one beyond were mailed only yesterday, and that such information as they had received at this time about Secretary Straus' wishes could have been obtained only from the newspapers. Hope was expressed that the instruction of the police in certain branches of the law would prove beneficial to them, and, through them, to the sponsored by influential republicans of public. The yarn about Bass was pronounced fishy.

HOSPITAL SHIP RELIEF. Will Be Attached to Admiral Evans'

Fleet.

According to the police Goldstein had which are at San Francisco, had been as- didates. signed to the Atlantic fleet commanded by Rear Admiral Evans and that they would join that fleet at Magdalena Bay. Surgeon Charles F. Stokes, who is in comshot while aiding his father to fight off Evans for orders and will have the same general status with the fleet as the commanding officers of the other naval ves-

ASK FOR \$500,000.

in the Tokio Exposition.

The House committee on arts and expoternational exposition at Tokio, Japan,

simply a national show. Since that time a great many republicans are taking these invitations have been accepted by prac- into serious consideration at this time. tically all of the European countries to participate. For that reason the appropriation of \$350,000, provided for in the inadequate from every point of view for with a hatchet, demanding money and States government at the exposition. tinue in the southern states. There is noon.

Period in Republican Politics.

IMPORTANT WORK

Against Instructions.

Attitude of Labor and Temper of

Negro Vote in Border States-Conventions for March.

The next ten days or two weeks will form a very critical period in republican be in Secretary Taft's favor, and things ier, and George T. Cutts, the government will be coming his way with a rush.

But there will be important work by the "allies," as the opposition to Secretary Taft is designated. New England is to be organized against instructed delegations. The keynote was sounded last night in a formal statement issued by Senator Crane in Boston, pleading for a free rein and no rowels in Massachu-Senator Crane's Statement.

Senator Crane's statement was as fol-

"The next republicen national convention will, without doubt, be the most important convention held since 1864. The action taken there may determine the result of the election soon to follow.

"Massachusetts should take an influenial part in that gathering of representaive republicans from all parts of the country, and should uphold her wellknown traditions and reputation for political liberty by sending delegates unhampered by instructions or resolutions. They should be absolutely free to do that which seems wisest and best for the institutions. party and for the country.

Tuesday night at a meeting which will be Massachusetts, and it is stated that fol- Good Building Construction and Fire tion, but even with this no appreciable of activity in behalf of an uninstructed delegation. Of course, everybody knows allies is to send uninstructed delegations and full conference of republicans from all parts of the country, in which vital It was announced at the Navy Department today that the naval hospital ship

Relief and the tender Fortune below relating to the prospective

a similar occurrence was virtually imposcausing both annoyance and irritation.

Even the device of paying the off Relief and the tender Fortune, both of chances of election of the respective can-

Difficulties in Campaign.

confronting the republican party in the coming campaign; difficulties arising from other causes. It would be childish to say Desired to Have Good Representation concern. Many republicans think they will have to be taken into account at Chi-

It is revealing no secret to say that sitions today decided to report favorably neither in the group of republicans interticipation of the United States in the in- paying more particular attention to the congressional campaign is there any belief that the republican party will have a walkover in the next election. Beyond an elaborate Chinese luncheon in honor of of 8 over that cast for him yesterday. When Japan first formulated the plan the question of nominations comes the crash of breaking glass would suggest to municipal and state authorities in this for the exposition, it comprehended question of electing the candidates, and

South in State of Ferment.

surrection and opposition to the administration. It has been shown in every convention thus far held, the latest yesterday in New Orleans, where the "lily whites" and the "black and tans" held rival conventions. Both are said to have a claim to regularity. One of them dominated by the federal office holders, chose delegations instructed for Secretary Taft. The other, representing the old-line colored contingency, sent an uninstructed delegation. These contesting delegations will come

not the shadow of a doubt that the south-

ern republicans are in a ferment of in-

to Chicago, along with similar contests from every other state in the south, there to have their regularity determined by the national committee and the conven-

Schedule of Conventions for March. The schedule of state and district con ventions in the month of March is as fol- One Local Letter Takes a Side Trip to Georgia - Second and third districts,

Illinois-State, March 28; first and fourth districts, March 30; fourteenth district, WAS March 31; eighteenth district, March 21 twentieth district, March 17; twenty-sec-

and and twenty-fifth districts, March 28; twenty-third district, March 20. Iowa-State convention, March 18; sixth district, March 12. Missouri-Eleventh and twelfth districts,

Ohio-Eleventh district, March 19; eighteenth district, March 10. Oklahoma-State convention, March 11 fifth district, March 9. Rhode Island-State convention, March 26; first and second districts, March 26.

Nebraska-State convention, March 11

Tennessee-State convention, March 25. Virginia-Ninth district, March 17. New Mexico-March 21. Porto Rico-March 29.

Ex-Treasurer Glazier Not Likely to Survive a Month.

INDICTED MAN VERY ILL.

Special Dispatch to The Star. CHELSEA, Mich., March 5 .- Ex-State lessness and tardiness of the service. Treasurer Frank P. Glazier, indicted for misuse of the state funds, who was arrested yesterday, was so ill he could hard- city February 10. The envelope was legly realize the nature of the proceedings. "It is doubtful if Glazier will survive a month," said a man closely connected with the family. "It is almost certain he will not live to appear in court."

sician and counsel for Glazier were pres- 26. The letter was plainly and correctly "Although it is plain Mr. Gazier cannot

Kline, "I am compelled by law to place a guard over him unless bail is arranged. COLUMBUS SCHOOL DEFECTIVE.

Chief Factory Inspector Starts for

Collinwood. COLUMBUS. Ohio, March 5 .- Chief State Factory Inspector John H. Morgan addressed to W. P. Young, secretary of left today for Collinwood, Ohio, to inspect the ruins of the school building there. The building was erected in 1901. It was never inspected by the state fire the services were concluded. An example inspector. The statement is made today of the injury worked by the lax arrangeat the statehouse that the force of inspectors is inadequate. The law provides a penalty of \$500 fine for officers in charge of public buildings who permit their use

when the doors swing inward. Mayor Bond, on complaint of people who send their children to the Eastern School building here, ordered the fire chief today to inspect all the school buildings in the city. The charge is made that the doors of the Eastern building are kept locked during school hours. One building was found where the doors swing

RIDGELY DENIES STORY.

Reported to Become Head of Big Kansas City Institution.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 5 .- After having been closed since December 5, the National Bank of Commerce is to reopen "If the police gather up an alien in their national political affairs, witnessing fur- its doors Monday, March 30, in its own ther progress of the Taft boom on the quarters in the Commerce building. Wilone hand and more thorough organiza- liam Barret Ridgely of Washington, contion of the opposition on the other. The troller of the currency, will be its pres-

> Edward Ridgely, a brother, will be cashreceiver now in charge, first vice pres-

William B. Ridgely, controller of the currency, continues to assert that he has ten doors away February 21. The letter received no offer to become president of was plainly addressed and the person the National Bank of Commerce of Kan- to whom it was sent has been residing at sas City, Mo., the big financial institution | the same place for more than a year, and that some time ago went into the hands of a receiver. Mr. Ridgely admits, however, that the bank is now being reorgansetts. His word has great weight in the ized, the directors being in session both Bay state, and if his advice is followed yesterday and today, and that he would the effect in Maine, New Hampshire and not be surprised should an offer be made to him. In this event it is considered probable that he will accept, provided, of course, that the reorganization of the institution is effected along lines he con siders proper and advantageous.

The situation, so far as Mr. Ridgely is concerned, is up in the air, propositions have been distributed the day before or to him having been of a tentative char- early in the morning. It is easy to see acter, which are to become definite, it is understood, so soon as the future of the institution is settled.

Mr. Ridgely's prospective retirement stated on good authority, that Lawrence Department of Commerce and Labor, will turns, and if each day the number not become controller.

Some years ago he was deputy controller under Charles G. Dawes, now president of one of Chicago's great financial

Gov. Hughes is to speak in Boston next GERMAN SCHOOL PRECAUTIONS. Drills.

BERLIN, March 5 .- Ludwig Hoffmann, that the keystone of the campaign of the an architect who has gained much promi- ment. nence in the designing of schools, was into Chicago, so that there may be a free terviewed here today concerning the Cleveland catastrophe. He declared that

German school buildings are of the most solid construction, with fireproof floors and ceilings. Some of them accommo- that customary under the regular deliv-Secretary Taft's firends know that there date 2,000 children, and in the event of ery of a former management has proved is grave discussion among republicans of fire there is every provision for the es- ineffectual, since complaints are coming mand of the Relief, will report to Admiral national prominence of the difficulties cape of the scholars. There are wide double and sometimes triple stairways leading down from the class rooms, and the the attitude of labor, from the temper of down stairs calmly when the fire alarm the negro vote in the border states and is sounded and form on the playground. in Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, and from where they are taught to await the arrival of the firemen under whose direction they that these considerations are not giving proceed to the streets in order not to interfere with the work of putting out the flames. The newspapers publish full accounts of

the Cleveland disaster.

CHICAGO, March 5 .- Preparations for

Special Dispatch to The Star.

Minister Wu Ting-fang, who is on his way to Washington, are being made by Chicago Chinese merchants. Minister Wu 5; Holliday, 1. with his diplomatic corps of thirty peo While the Taft boom will be making tea will be attended only by the staff of bill which has just passed the Senate is progress in the states and districts to Minister Wu and about forty of the elect regarded by State Department officials as in the states and districts to of Chicago Chinese society. Arrange-inadequate from every point of view for hold conventions within the fortnight to ments have been made to leave Chicago execution of all death sentences at the the proper representation of the United come, work by the opposition will con- for Washington at 3 o'clock in the after- penitentiary in this city by electricity,

HERE'S EVIDENCE.

Weather.

Rain tonight and tomorrow.

Slightly warmer.

Cases of Tardiness Not So "Isolated" as Claimed.

JUST A FEW COLD FACTS

Chicago.

PLAINLY ADDRESSED

Dinner Invitation Ten Days on Ita Journey to House in Same Section of City.

"Isolated cases" of undelivered, tardily delivered or wrongly delivered letters continue to be brought to the attention of The Star in such numbers that it begins to look as if Postmaster Barnes had used the word "isolated" in a Pickwickian sense. No better evidence of the complete demoralization of the distribution and delivery divisions of the Washington post office could be presented than this constant stream of complaints which The

Star receives. A few instances of missent or delayed letters are appended to illustrate the care-

Mrs. H. C. Bolton, 1519 K street, received February 28 a letter mailed in this ibly and correctly addressed. Eighteen days' delay.

Took a Side Trip.

Miss Mattie Boyd, 428 College street. The warrant was served by Sheriff received February 29, in the evening, Kline of Ingham county. The family phy- letter mailed in Washington February addressed, but was sent to Chicago and attempt to leave Chelsea," said Sheriff remailed to Washington by the office of the Illinois city before it reached the person to whom it was addressed. Three days' delay and a trip to Chicago. John T. D. Pyles, jr., 1001 New Jersey

> mailed to him in the city January 22. The address was typewritten and correct. Deay of twenty-nine days. A note containing cards of admission to the funeral services of Bishop Satterlee. the Franklin Fire Insurance Company, at his home, 1320 S street, mailed in the city at 7 p.m. February 24, was received at 4:50 p.m. February 25, two hours after

avenue, received February 20 a letter

ment of the service. An order to J. G. Meinberg's bakery, with a printed address, "P. O. Box 188, Washington, D. C.," mailed in Weverton, Md.. February 13, and received in Washngton at 9 a.m. February 14, was not delivered until February 17. The card ore an order for merchandise wanted February 14. An example of financial loss inflicted on business men by the in-

efficiency of the local postal service. Hurts His Business.

In this connection it may be mentioned that a Washington florist complains that many letters addressed to him, containing money in payment for flowers to be delivered on a certain night, do not reach him until after the date for which the order is given, and that, therefore, he loses the sales and has to return the money, besides suffering in his reputation

for prompt and accurate service. An official of one of the commercial organizations of the city also declares that out of about 1,000 announcements mailed by him to members 250 never reached the persons to whom they were plainly addressed, in type.

Andrew J. Benton, 310 E street northeast, received at 8:30 a.m., February 21, a letter postmarked in Washington at 10 a.m. February 19. Charles E. Taylor, 1310 I street. received March 2 a letter sent from a house

is so listed in the directory. The letter contained an invitation to dinner on the evening of February 23, but by the time the invitation was received the dinner

had almost ceased to be even a memory.

Letters Piling Up.

For the past few days even ordinary deliveries are all late, current letters piling up in the delivery room, while the clerks are still working on mail that should that, with the congestion permitted to exist in the distributing division, a letter mailed with the expectation of speedy defrom the office of controller means, it is livery does not stand the ghost of a chance. There is a long waiting list Murray, now assistant secretary of the ahead of it. The letters must take their yet disposed of increases it will not be

long before the office falls behind a week, instead of a day. It is understood that the force in the distributing division was compelled to work all Washington's brithday and the Sundays succeeding in order to make some headway at clearing up the letters that have accumulated through slow distribuneadway is made. The clerks, it is said, complain that they are being made to suffer on account of defects in manage-

However this may be, the public's first interest is in having its mail delivered promptly and accurately. No such situation as this has arisen before and it is Even the device of paying the office an extra ten cents for a special delivery stamp to make sure that a letter is delivered with a promptness approaching

in that the special delivery service is faulty also. No prospect of amelioration of the present conditions is held out, Mr. Barnes' assurance that the service is good not yet having been revised or brought up to

South Carolina Senatorship.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 5 .- The first ballot at today's joint session of the legislature for a successor to the late United States Senator Latimer resulted as folthemselves to an unusual degree to rid a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the parested in the national campaign nor those Plan Luncheon for Wu Ting-fang. lows: Gary, 60; Walker, 43; Coker. 20; Mauldin, 16; scattering, 6. Necessary to a choice, 79. Gary's vote showed a gain The second ballot resulted: Gary, 68: Walker, 51; Mauldin, 19; Coker, 13; Jones,

> To Abolish Hanging in Virginia. RICHMOND, Va., March 5.-The senate today concurred in the house bill for the thus abolishing hanging in the state.